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UNITED STATES ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY REGION III

841 Chestnut Building Philadelphia, Pennsylvania 19107-4431

SUBJECT: Transmittal of a Request for a Removal Action Restart Resulting in an Expenditure

of more than \$6 Million at the Shaffer Equipment Company Site,

Site ID# D8, Minden, Fayette County, West Virginia

FROM: Stephen D Jarvela, On-Scene Coordinator

Removal Response Section, (3HW31)

TO: Abraham Ferdas, Acting Director

Hazardous Waste Management Division (3HW00)

THRU: Dennis Carney, Chief

Removal Branch (3HW30)

ISSUE

The attached Removal Action Restart funding request pertains to the Shaffer Equipment Site in Minden, Fayette County, West Virginia.

A removal assessment performed in accordance with the National Oil and Hazardous Substances Pollution Contingency Plan (NCP), 40 CFR Part 300, has identified a threat to the public health and the environment posed by polychlorinated biphenyl (PCB) contamination which remains at the Site. The Site is currently owned by Shaffer Equipment Company an electrical equipment repair company that operated at that location for about 15 years. In 1984, the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) initiated a Removal Action in response to the active release of PCB contaminated transformer and capacitor oil onto the soil and into the adjacent Arbuckle Creek. This removal involved the initial removal of PCB contaminated equipment and the onsite treatment of the contaminated soil. Two subsequent Removal Actions followed this action to stabilize the Site further. A total of \$5,015,490 was authorized for this Site under those previous actions. The initial strategy was to stabilize the Site and refer it to the remedial program as a potential NPL candidate. The referral resulted in concurrent preliminary assessment/Site investigation efforts to develop a hazard ranking system (HRS) pre-score for the Site. The final pre-score showed that the Site would not score high enough to qualify as a National Priority List Site.

The On Scene Coordinator (OSC) has inspected the Site and found that deteriorating Site conditions are threatening the integrity of the earlier stabilization efforts. Without further efforts

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to repair the initial remedy, PCB contamination could be released from the Site. The OSC's review of the Post Removal Site Control measure for the initial Removal Action found that it was no longer an effective remedy for the Site. The OSC has evaluated the Site conditions and proposes to repair deteriorating areas, remove exposed contamination and install erosion and drainage controls to stabilize Site conditions to mitigate the threat posed by the remaining PCB contamination.

Additional funds are necessary to stabilize the Site and prevent further deterioration of the Site. Removal activities cannot continue over the \$6 million limit without the prior written approval of the Assistant Administrator for Solid Waste and Emergency Response. The statutory limits of one year and \$2 Million have been exempted through previous funding requests. The current Site ceiling is not sufficient to make repairs or upgrade the initial stabilization efforts. The OSC is requesting a restart project ceiling of \$1,875,000 which will bring the total Site ceiling to \$6,890,490. The extramural portion of the restart project ceiling is approximately \$1,825,000. I am forwarding this request for your transmittal to the Assistant Administrator.

Attachment: Request for Removal Restart Funding Request

